

## F-35 Assessment Team visits McEntire JNG Base

The Air Force announced in mid-October 2006 that McEntire Joint National Guard Base was one of 11 bases chosen as a candidate to receive the Air Force's newest fifth generation fighter, the F-35 *Lightning II* Joint Strike Fighter.

In order to determine which of those bases will get the F-35 mission, an Air Combat Command F-35 assessment team evaluated each base. The team visited McEntire January 5-8. "The F-35 Assessment Team visited the 169th Fighter Wing and validated our readiness to take on the F-35 mission," said Col. Scott Williams, wing commander.



(story and photo by SSG Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

See F-35 Team, page 4

The F-35 Assessment Team visited McEntire JNG Base in early January.

## Swamp Foxes set standard at Iron Falcon exercise

More than 50 SCANG members returned recently following a month-long deployment to the United Arab Emirates' Air Warfare Center at Al Dhafra Air Base. They represented the Air Force's Central Command in Iron Falcon, a multi-national, large-force air combat exercise and leadership course.

The deployed 169th Fighter Wing provided sorties for the large-force employment and Red Air Forces. SCANG members also

served on the White Force to help plan and execute the month-long exercise and school. This Air Combat Command exercise included a variety of jet fighters including F-22 *Raptors* from Langley AFB, Va., F-7s (MiG-21s) from Pakistan, *Typhoons* from Great Britain, *Rafales* from France, *Mirage 2000* fighters from the UAE and F-16 *Fighting Falcons* from McEntire, Jordan and the UAE.

"The Advanced Tactical Leadership Course has a very challenging syllabus designed to give a 4-ship flight lead the skills and experience necessary to plan and lead large-scale exercises with a diverse collection of aircraft and capabilities," Lt. Col. Boris Armstrong, detachment commander, said. "This particular exercise had the added

See Iron Falcon, page 4



Iron Falcon Exercise participants assemble on the flightline at Al Dhafra Air Base.

(photo by Tech. Sgt. Charles Larkin, Sr.)

# Commander's Corner



by  
**Lt. Col. Rita Whitmire**  
**169th Force Support Squadron**  
**Commander**



I would be remiss to let escape the opportunity to acknowledge the month of February when Americans shed a brighter spotlight on the contribution of people of African heritage. The spotlight exists not only to highlight the impact of African-Americans on society, but also to help all of us remember the dangers of racial and socio-economic oppression which affect all Americans.

I, and many others in my generation and beyond, have access to enormous opportunities. This is due in large part to the shoulders of the giants on whom we stand. Their acts of faith, courage, and sacrifice permeate every race. The identities of many of these people (the true heroes and heroines to whom we owe such a debt of gratitude), through the passage of time, have become lost to many of us. This is a travesty from which I implore those who do not have, or have lost the zest, to light your own torch from Carter Woodson's vivid flame. Once

relit, guard it from the winds of disregard and pass it into the waiting hands of an eager soul.

One such opportunity manifested itself recently in what was called the SCANG Leadership Challenge. This three-day session utilized an array of assessment inventories to provide a comprehensive profile for each participant; its goal, self-analysis, and its by-product, capacity building.

As we navigated through the learning opportunities and reflected on our strengths and vulnerabilities, there were many "aha" moments. At the conclusion of the three-day session, each individual was asked to articulate what he or she will "take away" from the experience. I reduced my comments to a couple of sentences that mainly reflected my thoughts as they related to the most recent agenda item discussed.

Since that time, I've had cause for pause and reflection. My mind travelled in many

different directions, but it always came back to people. People are complex! Everyone is wired differently, and when you bring histories, opinions, backgrounds, preferences, and personalities, to name a few considerations, into the mix, my conclusion is that the ability to effectively deal with people is a commodity. The good news is each person brings a unique set of skills and abilities and is endowed with the potential for greatness. Each of us *will* influence hundreds during our lifetime. The question then becomes *how* will you influence others? The journey will sometimes lead to defining moments, but know that you, despite your best intention, will be judged by your actions, not your intentions. In the end, *"to err is human; to forgive divine."*

One of my most treasured possessions does not have a monetary value. It's an old window pane, dressed with a silhouette of an aged tree. Hand-written on the glass are simple, but profound principles. It was created for me as a gift by a beloved teacher, Mrs. Kevin Bockman, and her sixth grade class when I left Hand Middle School to pursue another goal. This cherished treasure has served to help guide me in my everyday existence. I believe it has something to offer you as well.

## LESSONS FROM A TREE

*Enjoy the view  
Stand tall and be proud  
Be content with your natural beauty  
Be flexible so you don't break when  
a harsh wind blows  
Grow where you're planted  
It's OK to be a late bloomer  
Avoid people who would like to cut you down  
It's important to have roots  
Sometimes you have to shed your old bark  
in order to grow  
Embrace the sun!  
Thrive even in the shade!*

Being fortunate to engage in experiences that foster self-study and self-improvement is a vehicle for success in an ever-changing society. For when you know yourself, you will be much more efficient in aligning your unique skills and abilities toward a successful endeavor.

I leave you with this quote from arguably the most well-known and perhaps influential carrier of Carter Woodson's torch. *"Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality."* --

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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**Official Mission Statement of the 169th Fighter Wing:** To provide a trained and equipped citizen fighting force that exceeds the capability of any Guard, Reserve, or active-duty Air Force unit in the protection and defense of state and nation; to maintain the capability for worldwide deployment of combat-ready assets to meet contingency and general war requirements; to employ conventional munitions in close-air-support, interdiction, offensive counter-air, defensive counter attack, suppression of enemy air defenses and special capability AGM-65 Maverick missiles; to provide world-class units that are recognized as being the best of the best when directed by the governor to preserve and protect the life, property, peace and public safety of the citizens of South Carolina.

Submission of SCANG News material: Articles and photography are welcome and should be submitted prior to the deadline (see below). E-mail submissions to 169FW.PA.SCANGNews@ang.af.mil.

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**Deadline for the March issue is February 12**



## Chief's Concerns

Chief Master Sergeant Larry Crowson, 169th AMXS

One of the best books I have read on leadership is *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership* by John C. Maxwell. A couple of great quotes from this book which really hit home with me are "A leader is one who sees more than others see, who sees farther than others see, and who sees before others do." and "When the right leader and the right timing come together, incredible things happen."

Looking at McEntire, the Swamp Fox team, we have the right leader at the right time and incredible things have been happening at our base. Looking to the future we have four big things facing us in the year ahead of us: the F-35 assessment/conversion, the Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA) mission moving from Shaw AFB to here, an AEF rotation and UCI planning and countdown.

Our Air Force core values are the light we as leaders should be using to guide our footsteps through these leadership challenges. Here is what I feel our core values should stand for in all military lives:

### INTEGRITY FIRST

Being truthful and honest with ourselves, whether we are being observed or not. Our parents taught us to be responsible for our actions at all times and many of us were also

taught that we are always being watched by a higher power and that our conscience should be our guide.

### SERVICE BEFORE SELF

Don't concentrate on what you get out of a task as much as what you put into it. Each Airman must put the mission ahead of our personal goals or agendas. If we have to work a little longer or harder, we must simply remember that what we do and how we do it affects mission accomplishment. Service before self also means treating others with respect and dignity.

### EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO

We must always do our best! If we practice doing our jobs right the first time, we can expect our performance to reflect this statement. Our peers will recognize it, our supervisors will also, and of course, we will always have the satisfaction of knowing we did our best.

I challenge each of you to review the Air Force core values and consider what they mean to you. Know them and use them as a guide for improving your personal and professional lives.

I'm in the process of finishing a book by Tony Dungy entitled *Quiet Strength*. A few quotes that I really like:

"Be a pro."



"Act like a champion."

"Respond to adversity; don't react."

"Be on time. Being late means either it's not important to you or you can't be relied upon."

"Execute. Do what you're supposed to do when you're supposed to do it. Not almost; all the way. Not most of the time; all of the time."

"Take ownership."

"Whatever it takes."

"No excuses, no explanations."

A last thought: Are we growing leaders or followers?



## Recruiting & Retention

### Military Personnel Summary

#### Strength

##### Officers:

Authorized	143
Assigned	130
Percent Manned	90.9%

##### Airmen:

Authorized	1198
Assigned	1222
Percent Manned	<b>102.0%</b>

##### Total:

Authorized	1341
Assigned	1352
Percent Manned	<b>100.8%</b>

(as of January 21, 2010)

#### Recruiting/Retention

##### Gains:

	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Prior	3	27
Non-Prior	7	42
Total	10	69

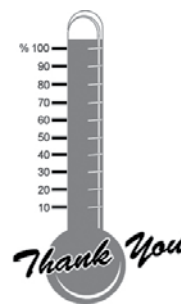
##### Losses:

ETS	3	6
Discharge	0	6
Medical	0	0
Resignation	0	1
Retirement	2	11
Transfer	2	7
Other	0	0
Total	7	31

**Net Gain/Loss +3 +38**

### Recruiting Progress

**We're at 100.8 percent!**



**We must maintain 100% strength through 2010! Recruit & Retain!**

There are many positions open for immediate recruiting...

Munitions, Weapons, Crew Chiefs, Life Support, CE, Security Forces and more





## Briefs

### Free childcare available

Free childcare for children 6 weeks to 12 years is available at Fort Jackson's Child Development Center for all Guard and active duty members for posted drill dates. The CDC is located in base housing next to the Fort Jackson Commissary. Hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. To obtain a registration packet or for more information, contact Terry DeLille, (803) 647-8089 or email her at carolyn.delille@ang.af.mil.

### Commander's Action Line

Have a question, concern or problem? Leave a message on the Commander's Action Line. If requested, a member of the Commander's Staff will respond with a resolution. Call (803) 647-8899.

### Top Three NCO Council meets

The Senior NCO Council meets Feb. 7 (Sunday drill) at 3 p.m. in the Canteen.

### Personal weapons policy

No personal weapons of any type, concealed or in plain view, are allowed on property of the S.C. Military Dept. and under the jurisdiction of the SC Adjutant General. Exceptions are members whose job requires them to carry weapons and who have written permission from the TAG.

### Firing Range: No trespassing

The Base Firing Range, Bldg. 3320, is closed to all non-authorized personnel. It is illegal and dangerous, due to gunfire, to trespass onto the firing range without prior approval from the 169th Security Forces Squadron Combat Arms Section. The range is for official use only and not open to the public. Contact TSgt. Paul Wallace, 169th SFS, NCOIC, Combat Arms, Bldg. 979, (803) 647-8703 if there is a need for entry.

### ESGR Committee wants you

The SCANG ESGR Committee seeks volunteers. Contact Lt. Col. Glen Boatwright, (803) 647-8216 if interested.

### H1N1 flu vaccine at Clinic

This is a mandatory vaccine. If you haven't had it, get it at the Clinic Feb. drill. If you got the H1N1 vaccine from a civilian provider bring your documentation to Clinic now.

### Email updates in February

An NGB/ANG disaster recovery exercise takes place Feb. 10-27. Expect delays.

### F-35 team, from page 1

"They loved the base and said we were well-suited to receive the F-35 with a minimum of changes. We have no encroachment or air space issues and the weather is unbeatable," he said.

"Our base is in good condition and in a great position compared to other bases being considered," said Lt. Col. Boris Armstrong, wing project officer. "One of our major benefits is we have complete control over our base and airfield and our efficiency in Air Operations is unmatched. We want the F-35 and we're well-suited for it."

The U.S. has a purchase order for 1,763 airplanes. If selected, McEntire would get F-35s to replace all of the F-16s on base.

The assessment team will present their findings to the F-35 Executive Steering Group in March. Once the group has gathered the information about all the possible bases, the Air Force chief of staff and the Secretary of the Air Force will decide what bases will get the F-35. Initially, three bases will be chosen. McEntire should learn of their decision in May.

Williams is pleased with the way the Swamp Foxes pulled everything together to make McEntire the great base that it is. "I feel we've done very well in the evaluation. We've got what it takes. If the F-35 came off the line right now we'd be ready for it," said Williams.

(by SSG Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

### Iron Falcon, from page 1

challenge of communicating with partners from six participating countries, only two of which speak English as a native language. An equally important objective of the exercise was to develop tactics and foster the relationships needed to fight effectively alongside our coalition partners. The Swamp Fox was well represented with a great performance by our students and "best-seen-to-date" maintenance," said Armstrong.

Captains Ryan Madrid and Jacob Scott, 157th Fighter Squadron, graduated from the ATLC while deployed to the UAE.

Several high-level Air Force leaders visited the Swamp Foxes at the AWC during the exercise including the Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norton Schwartz, the ACC commander, General William Fraser, III, and Lt. Gen. Mike Hostage, Commander, U.S. Air Forces Central Command, Southwest Asia. Schwartz applauded the accomplishments of the SCANG in the Falcon Air Meet saying the victory had reinforced Air Force

## Job Openings

### Equal Opportunity Officer

The 169th Fighter Wing has an opening for a traditional Equal Opportunity Officer open to officers and enlisted. This is a commissioning opportunity. Send an application package consisting of your AFOQT score, college transcript, a resume and a letter of intent to Lt. Amber Goodman, 169th Equal Opportunity Officer, 1325 South Carolina Rd. Suite 1, Eastover, SC 29044 by March 12. For more information contact Goodman, (803) 361-4968.

### Two First Sergeants Needed

The 169th Mission Support Group has an immediate opening for a First Sergeant and the 245th ATCS will need a First Sergeant in July. Candidates must be in the grade of MSgt. or TSgt. promotable to MSgt. A package consisting of letter of intent, resume, and RIP should be submitted to 169th FW Command Chief, CMSgt. Zane Wall, by Feb. 7 (for MSG) and March 7 (for 245 ATCS). Contact Wall at zane.wall@ang.af.mil or (803) 647-8592 or (803) 608-0495 (cell) or (864) 809-1730.

senior leadership's insistence that McEntire remain on the list of installations to receive the F-35 *Lightning II* joint strike fighter.

The three generals commended the 169th FW on their well-deserved reputation of excellence. Speaking of Gen. Schwartz, Armstrong said, "He was extremely complimentary of our Swamp Fox team and its reputation around the world as one of the Air Force's premiere fighter wings."

CMSgt. Mike Hale, said, "Maintenance cooperation between the participating nations has been outstanding. We shared support equipment, technical advice and friendship. We learned that even though we work different airframes and come from various parts of the world, maintainers are maintainers and we share many of the same challenges and rewards. As always the Swamp Foxes were outstanding and left a lasting impression."

McEntire shared a Maintenance facility with Pakistani, British and Jordanian air forces. "We'll miss our friends from the UAE and Jordan but are glad to be home with friends and family," said CMSgt. Stephen Shepherd, 169th MXG.

(by MSgt. Richard Hodges, 169th FW/PA)



## SCANG Snapshot

SSgt. Justin McKeown (pronounced Mc-“Cown” as in “Town”) aka “Cow-man,” of the 169th Civil Engineering Squadron’s Fire Emergency Services Flight, is in his own words, “an ordinary guy,” who does extraordinary things, yet remains ordinary!

Born in Fairfax, Allendale County (SC), he grew up in West Columbia and knew that when he went to college, he wanted one that would accommodate his ‘ordinary’ lifestyle. Charleston Southern University seemed a good fit. When he graduated with a Communications degree, and a minor in English, he was unsure which direction his life would take. While briefly working construction, a friend told him about the opportunities available in the Air National Guard at McEntire - of which he admits, “I had no idea that it (McEntire Joint National Guard Base) even existed; but I did know that construction wasn’t going to be my life-long calling.”

McKeown decided at an early age he wanted to work in Public Safety because of his fascination with the lights and sirens but he wasn’t sure if he wanted to be a policeman or a firefighter.

The leaders of the 169th CES are glad he chose the latter. His commander, Lt. Col. Michael Dotson says, “He’s a rising star amidst the many trained professionals we have in the fire department. He recently graduated from Rescue School at the DoD Fire Academy at Goodfellow AFB and continues to share those unique rescue skills with his state

and military firefighter peers.”

McKeown jokes that his decision to be a firefighter was based on the fact that, “You can run away from fire, but not a bullet.”

Since becoming a member of the SCANG 5-1/2 years ago, he’s become a “go-to” guy when the job has to get done. He’s a ‘hard-worker,’ and is involved in many jobs to successfully protect the members at McEntire. “Our base populace,” Dotson said, “can be confident that when you need first responders, there are trained and equipped professionals like SSgt. McKeown who are geared up and ready to take decisive action.”

He works during the week as a civilian firefighter here and credits former SCANG member Frank Quinones, now at Langley AFB, Virginia, as his greatest Air Guard role model. “Frank provided that ‘fatherly figure’ in the military environment,” McKeown said, “as well as the tools required to assist me in helping the younger airmen; in both wisdom and guidance, while also giving constructive criticism.”

McKeown enjoys being a member of the base Fire Department and working with those whom he refers to as family. In his down-time he enjoys restoring his 1987 Toyota 4-Runner, and riding his Yamaha 1100 V-Star Classic, which he says, “sounds and looks like a Harley-Davidson but it’s much cheaper.” His likes to fish, dove hunt, hang out with friends and do yard work.

He places great emphasis on the importance of both his natural and military family.



**SSgt. Justin McKeown**  
**169th Civil Engineering Squadron**  
**Firefighter**

**Hometown:** Fairfax, SC  
**Residence:** West Columbia  
**Years in SCANG:** 5-1/2  
**Favorite Team:** USC Gamecocks Football  
**Best Movies:** Ladder 49, Step Brothers  
**Favorite food:** “Anything my Mom cooks”

He looks forward to any training with his fellow-firefighters that would help them know what to do in an emergency.

So, when the alert signal is heard in the Alarm Room (affectionately called “The Hole”), you can expect his adrenaline to start flowing, because the ‘best’ family on base is going to respond to the ‘best’ personnel in the Air National Guard – and maybe that’s the reason he has decided to make firefighting in the Guard a life-long commitment.

(by MSgt. Pelham Myers Jr., 169th FW/PA)

## SCANG News editor bids Swamp Foxes farewell

This is my last issue as editor of the SCANG News as well as my last as a member of the finest unit in America’s Combat Air Force - the 169th Fighter Wing of the SCANG. This month I’ll be 60 and can no longer serve the Air Force I’ve been a part of since first enlisting in September 1970.

After 130 issues as a SCANG photojournalist and another 43 as a fledgling assistant editor and then another 65 as editor, I pass this privilege and duty to someone else who will do as good a job or better than I.

The monthly SCANG News would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of the entire wing public affairs staff. I’m thankful for their tremendous and timely support over the years in writing, photography, graphics and all other aspects of newspaper production. My special thanks go out to Lt. Col.

Les Carroll for his journalistic guidance and expertise as well as to Maj. Jim Roth for ten years of expert advice and patient mentoring in the art and science of being an editor.

Their combined efforts resulted in a high-quality, on-time news publication each month. Many thanks also to Don Eleazer (CMSgt., SCANG Ret.) of Zippy Print, Inc. for many years of exceptional service in publishing the SCANG News.

My appreciation to all the hard-working professionals in the 169th FW Public Affairs shop; especially SMSgt. Ed Snyder, NCOIC, a leader and mentor extraordinaire who demanded, and got, the best from us all. You’re the finest overall PA team I’ve had the privilege of working with and I’ve worked with many from small Air Base Group PA shops to MAJCOMs and above.

Your considerable talents are needed more than ever as the SCANG moves into the challenging years ahead. I know you can do all that’s required of you...and then some.

I’m very pleased to have been a part of the SCANG; it’s been my best Air Force assignment and I thank former wing commander, Col. Dick Noble (SCANG, Ret.), for making that possible. I wouldn’t have had the great privilege of being a Swamp Fox had it not been for his trust, vision and leadership.

It’s been a tremendous joy and privilege to have been able to serve with each of you. For more than 63 years the SCANG has been one of the greatest treasures of America and South Carolina. Your reputation is world-renown! Thanks, Swamp Foxes, for the memories. God bless you all.

*Commentary by MSgt. Richard B. Hodges*

# New safety officer cautions, "Never let your guard down."

There have been some recent events on base that have brought the topic of safety into the spotlight, according to Lt. Col. Keith Miller, the 169th Fighter Wing's new Safety Officer. Two Airmen have been seriously injured, but were lucky that their injuries weren't any worse. One crew chief got a "Viper bite" that narrowly missed his eye and an Airman working in a back shop got seriously burned when performing his duties recently. "The crew chief's story was the scariest thing I'd heard in a long time until I was notified about the burn injury," said Miller. "These events highlight how dangerous the jobs we do and the environment we work in can be."

Miller stressed some safety concepts he would like everyone to embrace: "I want people to pay attention to what is going on around them – to try to develop situational awareness (SA). When you are moving around an airplane or within your work area, you need to be skull's up and paying attention to your surroundings. This is even more critical when an airplane is running or moving. It's also important to look at the processes around you to make sure that the environment is safe for the task and that it is being performed correctly. We are more lethal in combat if everyone practices proper procedures all the time."

"Don't accept that you know how to do something," SMSgt. Lee Shepherd, wing safety manager said. "Use the technical order and follow the procedures. Make sure to clarify all procedures if there's any confusion. Supervisors should evaluate high-risk functions to find gaps in our facilities, procedures or training."

Culture is critical to a safe operation. Anyone can call a 'knock-it-off' at any time if he or she sees something unsafe. "There are a lot of new personnel on base with a fresh mindset; listen to what those folks have seen elsewhere to improve how we do things here," said Shepherd. "Teach our new Airmen our best practices and be receptive to new ideas that are discussed." Brainstorm some 'what if' or 'worst case' situations and come up with ways to prevent something bad from happening. "If you think of a better way to perform a certain action," Miller said, "talk it over with your supervisor first and go to Quality Assurance (QA) or the Safety Office if you need some help. If something happens and you say, 'I told you so', then you probably didn't."

There is a lot going on at McEntire these days, but with everyone watching out for each other, McEntire JNGB should be a

very safe place to work. It doesn't matter if the job is working on an F-16 or climbing a ladder to change a light bulb. Everyone is responsible for a safe working environment for themselves and their wingmen. Safety is everyone's business. Accidents are rarely just bad luck, they usually happen because of a chain of events leading up to it. Break the chain.

- Scary stuff's been happening
- Have some SA – look up when moving around
- Review the processes where you work – 'what if' some worst case scenarios
- Anyone can stop what's going on
- Make a suggestion – be part of the solution
- Watch out for each other

(by Lt.Col. Keith Miller, 169th FW/SE and  
SSG Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

## Welcome to our Newest Active Associate Members

**TSgt. Willie Neal, II**  
**SSgt. Michael Lepire**  
**SrA. Andrew Hotchkiss**  
**SrA. Andrew Imhof**  
**A1C Kyle Fallgren**

**SCANG Recruiters, 1-800-432-2754, 187-SWAMPFOX, [www.goang.com](http://www.goang.com)**

### **McEntire JNGB**

#### **SMSgt. Lorenda Thomas**

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Officer Recruiter  
(803) 647-8414 BB: (803) 608-8940

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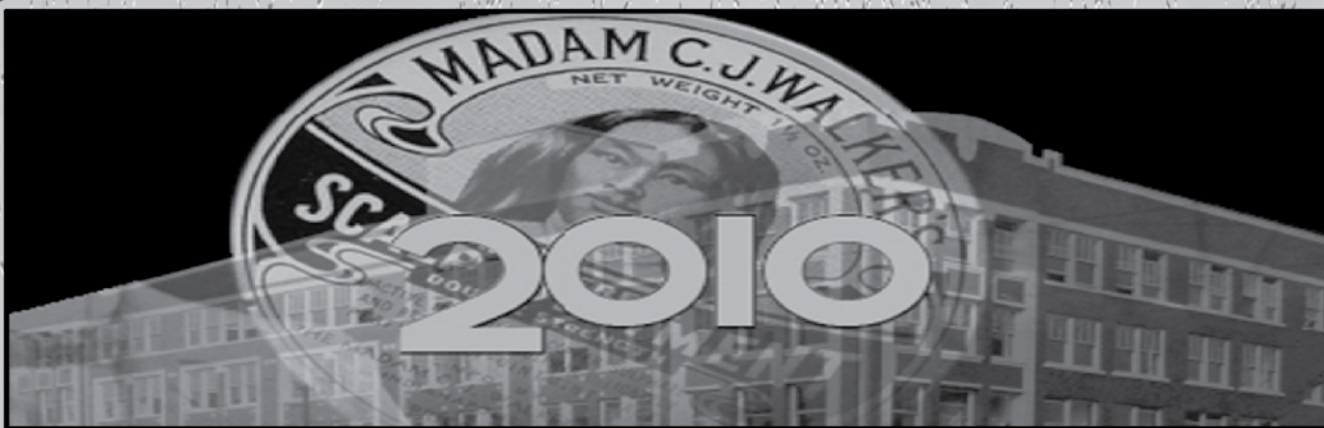
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BB: (803) 608-3098

### **Charleston AFB**

#### **SSgt. James Rodriguez Recruiter**

(803) 647-8085  
BB: (803) 391-6348





*Guest Speaker*  
**Mr. J. Charles Jones, Esquire**



Stewart Moore

*Master of Ceremony*  
**Mr. Stewart Moore, WIS-TV**



**Surprise Guest !**

**Mike Stone and the  
KRITIKAL Band**

*Ms. Alexis Thompson*  
*Historic Columbia Foundation*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

McEntire Joint National Guard Base

Light Refreshments Will Be Served at the  
Aerospace Dining Facility at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 7th

In the 1950s and 1960s people became aware of the racial inequalities which populated our country. Across the United States, individuals joined the Civil Rights Movement, took a stand against oppression, and changed the course of the world. Many of the most prominent figures of this movement were African-American. Figures like Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and W. E. B. DuBois.

African-Americans populated the ranks of Dr. King's foot soldiers and the Freedom Riders. They participated in boycotts, sit-ins, marches and countless other nonviolent protests.

The empowered actions of the Civil Rights Movement helped to bring about the Civil Rights Act of 1964; banning discrimination practices in employment and public accommodations. They created a nation in which any form of racial discrimination is punishable by law.

Mr. J. Charles Jones, Esq. will be at the Aerospace Dining Facility Sat., Feb. 7 at 2:30 p.m. in honor of African-American History Month. Mr. Jones was a Freedom Rider in the early 1960s and spent time with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

(by 2Lt. Amber Goodman, 169th FW/PA)

# McEntire's C-130 Unit--Flying the *Hercules* since 1989

When the 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the island nation of Haiti January 12 and a strong 6.1 aftershock on January 20, the respected workhorse of the U.S. military was there again. The Lockheed-Martin C-130 *Hercules* has been a part of every major operation, war or humanitarian effort for the last half century.

The SCANG's C-130, of the 169th Operations Support Flight, is no different, taking part in missions all over to support not just the Air Force, but the Army and civilian agencies as well. Although the C-130 crew at McEntire Joint National Guard Base has not been called to support relief efforts in Haiti yet, it's certainly the right plane for the job. "We are the homeland defense aircraft," said Lt. Col. Buck Shuler, the SCANG's lead C-130 pilot with more than 3,000 hours. "We have a mission for domestic issues."

He added the C-130 is right there "in the fight." The remarkable C-130 *Hercules* is still in production and many airlifters consider it to be the most successful modern military transport aircraft. The C-130 design employs a cargo floor at truck-bed height above the ground, an integral 'roll on/roll off' rear loading ramp, and an unobstructed, fully-pressurized cargo hold which can rapidly be reconfigured for carrying troops, cargo, stretchers or civilian passengers.

Shuler said that unlike neighboring Guard units in North Carolina and Georgia, the 169th OSF does not have a regular OCONUS mission (a mission outside the continental U.S.) but they have flown missions to Alaska, Honduras and England and other OCONUS locations. The unit regularly supports airlift requests from National Guard Bureau and flies on a weekly basis in support of any number of missions. "Ninety percent of our flying is mission related," Shuler said.

Since the C-130 found its home at McEntire in 1989, there have been three versions of the aircraft including the H model, E model and the latest is a WC-130H. This old hurricane hunter which came to McEntire from the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron ("Hurricane Hunters") of the 403rd Wing at Keesler Air Force

Base in Biloxi, Miss., is a step up from the E model with bigger engines. The unusual nose is part of a modified Fulton Recovery System from a HC-130 model that was later converted to a WC-130. The 43-year-old aircraft (Tail No. 50985) later served as a hurricane hunter flying through 37 hurricanes from 1978 to 2004.

The SCANG took delivery of its first C-130, an H model on July 17, 1989. The unit transitioned to the C-130E model Aug. 22, 2000, and changed to the current model, a WC-130H on Dec. 15, 2005.

The C-130 is a perfect fit for operations at home and abroad with its ability to take off and land on short runways and even dirt strips. "There's not a hotspot in the world that doesn't have a C-130 flying it in," Shuler said.

In October 1998, when Hurricane *Mitch* struck Central America the SCANG sent its C-130 to assist with relief efforts. That wouldn't be the last time it was needed during the aftermath of a catastrophic natural disaster. The 169th OSF's C-130 was again used after Hurricanes *Frances* and *Katrina*.

The SCANG's "*Herc*" is also available to move people, parts and equipment wherever it's needed, Shuler said. In recent years the C-130 has supported the Tyndall deployment, Green Flag and moving equipment for the SC ANG and other units.

In the event of a terrorist attack using biological or chemical weapons, the SC ANG's C-130 is also available to move important resources such as the 43rd Civil Support Team and their specialized equipment into place in very short order.

In FY2008 the unit flew 180 sorties for 368 hours moving 317 tons of cargo and 1,359 passengers. The SCANG's airlifter has a crew of five: pilot, co-pilot, navigator, flight engineer and loadmaster. The 169th OSF has five pilots, a navigator, three flight engineers, three loadmasters and five maintainers from the 169th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

With its capabilities and no shortage of needs, the C-130 looks to be in the Air Force's inventory for many years to come.

(by SSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)



SCANG C-130 file photos from top left, clockwise: The C-130 crew atop their C-130H aircraft before it was traded-in for an older E-model (2000 photo). The 169th Operations Support Flight C-130E leaves the SCANG to be exchanged for an H-Model. (2005 photo) SCANG WC-130H crew (April 2007) on the C-130 ramp. From left: Capt. Mike Lineberger, Lt. Col. Buck Shuler, MSgt. John Jones, Capt. Lawrence Arnold, Maj. Matt Weber, MSgt. Brian Duncan, Maj. Howard Fell, Lt. Col. Scott Nottoli, MSgt. Ed McQueen and MSgt. James McMillian. The 169th OSF C-130E flight deck in flight. (2003 photo). (Photos by SCANG Photographers SMSgt. Ed Snyder and TSgt. Caycee Cook)



# Year of the Air Force Family focuses on Airmen

The Secretary and Air Force chief of staff has dedicated July 2009 to July 2010 as the "Year of the Air Force Family." The program not only recognizes family members, but also the community support network for Airmen as the nation remains at war.

The program is hinged on four pillars:

**Health and Wellness**  
**Airmen and Family Support**  
**Education, Development and Employment**  
**Airmen and Family Housing**

Each month, the Air Force is highlighting various aspects of family and community and encourages Airmen to revisit the many products, services and events available to enhance these relationships. Some of the themes for the months ahead include health and nutrition, the military child and physical fitness.

Terry DeLille of Family Programs for the 169th Fighter Wing has collected more than 60 different topic pamphlets and created a resource center in the Canteen to provide information on issues ranging from "Picky Eaters and How to Get your Kids to eat Healthy Foods" to "Anxiety and Depression 101."

"It's important for us to remember our Airmen have different support networks ranging from spouses and parents to neighbors and

friends," said DeLille. "Our goal is to ensure we are meeting all of our Airmen's needs, as they may be dealing with entirely different issues depending on their age and phase in their lives."

DeLille said it's important Airmen take advantage of the programs and resources offered by the Air Force and encourages members to visit the official Year of the Air Force Family website at <http://www.af.mil/yoaff/index.asp> for additional information.

"We can never underestimate the value of the Swamp Fox family including spouses, retirees and employers," said Colonel Scott Williams, 169th Fighter Wing commander. "We view the 'Year of the Air Force Family' as a way to evaluate our own initiatives and make improvements where necessary as the role and mission of McEntire and the Wing continues to grow."

DeLille said to watch the March edition of the SCANG News for information on a Fighter Wing writing contest entitled, "*Why My Spouse is Special*" to coincide with the month of May and Military Spouse day on May 7.

"This contest should be a lot of fun and is very appropriate as the Fighter Wing departs on the AEF mission," said DeLille. "Deployments are much easier and more successful when Airmen know things are running smoothly at home and this is a great opportunity for our spouses to hear how much we appreciate them."

(by Capt. Cindi King, 169th FW/PA)

**ARPC CADRE powerpoint slides from the January drill**

**<https://www.my.af.mil/afknprod/community/views/home.aspx?Filter=AN-DP-02-34>**

## SCANG history and directory now in production

The 169th Fighter Wing has contracted with Excalibur Marketing & Associates, Inc. to photograph SCANG members with the purpose of producing a combined history and photographic directory. The contract also includes wall collages for the various wing units and shops. The directory and collages will be produced and available for purchase in late 2010 or early 2011. This special edition directory will depict the history of the SCANG from it's early beginnings in the late 1940s to the present.

To make this endeavor a success we need 100 percent participation of our membership. All participating members will receive a free 10" x 13" professional portrait (with any purchase), in uniform, in front of the U.S. flag. In addition to your free portrait, Excalibur will make available additional sizes and poses to share with other friends and family members. These additional packages may be purchased at the photography session.

Contact SMSgt. Edward Snyder, (803) 239-7467, for more information and scheduling. Help us make our directory a success by attending one of the photography sessions.

Thank you,  
Col. Scott Williams, 169th Fighter Wing  
South Carolina Air National Guard

- \* Become a part of our history
- \* Be acknowledged for your participation in our organization
- \* Be recognized by other members of our group
- \* Receive a free professional 10" x 13" portrait in uniform with any purchase (\$75 value)
- \* Do your part to make our directory a success...

**Be photographed!**

**Portraits will be made  
in the base canteen -  
use the BX entrance  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
February  
(Drill Sunday - ONLY!)**



Our January breakfast comprised a first, we had our first annual Memorial Service for those who departed us during the year of 2009. We hope to continue this on an annual basis, plus it helps us with reconciling our members with the names inscribed on the monument located in front of the Headquarters Building.

So this serves as a good tool for us and the NCO Academy Graduates. Speaking of "first," we had three "first timers" at our last breakfast. We had Don Eleazer, who joined way back in 1958, and who also is responsible for printing up our SCANG News each month. He does a good job, and knows a lot of our history. Also, there was my old AGE buddy, Phil Barber, and Charles "Cod" Caldwell. I expect them to come back and see us.

Another interesting note, and that was having the presence of James "Smitty" Smith, formerly of the Dental Clinic, whose Dad, Robert Smith, was stationed originally at the Congaree Marine Corps Air Base during World War II as a Navy Pharmacist's Mate,

or now Hospital Corpsman. We would like to get some history from Mr. Smith about the original base. Smitty is headed for Bulgaria. I'm not kidding, to marry a dentist, and live there. It's a rare and noble thing for him to embark on, and we wish him the best.

**McEntire History:** Since I have most of my Air Guard materials, and books packed up for our pending move, I am unable to impart some real data facts. However, I am still able to honor our members who have retired by name and year. This month we'd like to honor the May-August 1996 retirees. They are Colonels Robert Gray and Mason Brooks, and Lt. Col. Charles Plunkett. Also, SMSgt. Robert Landrum and MSgts. Paul Derrick (RCSd), Charles Felder, Wayne Whisnant (CE), Robert Owens (240th), Ernest Major (was he known as Sergeant Major?), Herbert Moss, Robert Meyers (Rapid Robert-240th), Walter Drawdy, Jr., Robert Age, and TSgt. Robert Cooke.

As mentioned earlier in this article we retirees, in coordination with the NCO Academy Graduates, primarily MSgt. Kevin Thomas,

want to insure that all known SCANG members names are on our monument dedicated to those of us who have passed on.

We fully support the efforts of the NCO Academy Graduates at McEntire and thank them for all that they are doing.

We will be having a breakfast provided by the Chief's Council at McEntire on Wednesday morning, Feb. 3 at 9 a.m. at the McEntire Aerospace Dining Facility (Chow Hall).

I mistakenly put the wrong date down in the last SCANG News, so re-mark your calendars. If you haven't been to the Base in a good while, this is a great opportunity for you to visit. It changes everyday.

We are very pleased the Chiefs take their time and effort to provide us with this opportunity to chow down with them.

The rest of the breakfasts and luncheons will be at the Fort Jackson NCO Club at our usual times the rest of this year as far as we know right now.

Fellow retirees: I hope to see many of you at our February McEntire Breakfast at 9 a.m. at the McEntire Aerospace Dining Facility.

## Senior NCO Academy applications due March 12 to FSS

The National Guard Bureau Education, Training, and Distance Learning Branch is now accepting applications for the Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy classes for fiscal year 2011 beginning Oct. 1, 2011

All application packages must be received by NGB/A1FP no later than close of business March 19. In order to meet this deadline the 169th FSS Force Development Section (Base Training) must have all application packages no later than close of

business March 12. The selection board at NGB/A1FP will not consider any packages received after the March 19 deadline.

For further information, contact SMSgt. Mae Jones, 169th FSS Force Development Section, (803) 647-8207.

### South Carolina Air National Guard Employer of the Year Nomination Form for 2009

(SCANG members can nominate an individual and/or company)

Name of Employer/Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
SCANG Member Nominating Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(on base) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (off base) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Attach Narrative

Be specific in describing how your employer has supported you and the SCANG

**Return application to  
Lt. Col. Glen Boatwright,  
(803) 647-8216 - Mail Stop 1  
by end of February drill  
Nominations may be emailed  
to [glen.boatwright@ang.af.mil](mailto:glen.boatwright@ang.af.mil)**





**Enlistments**

SSgt Taaka Bowman, 169th FSS  
 SrA Keyva Young, 169th FSS  
 SrA Brian Waymire, 169th AMXS  
 A1C Andrew Kroto, 169th FSS  
 A1C Josh Lanier, 169th AMXS  
 A1C Orinn Williams, 169th MXS

**Enlisted Promotions****Senior Master Sergeant**

William Clark, 169th FW  
 Matthew Morehouse, 169th OSF

**Technical Sergeant**

Jeffrey Hopper, 169th AMXS  
 Jose Rodriguez, 169th FSS  
 Isaac White, 169th AMXS

**Staff Sergeant**

Joseph Thompson, 169th CES  
 Joseph Lewis, 169th AMXS  
 Danielle Garcia, 169th MDG

**Senior Airman**

John Denny, 169th MXG  
 Jay Knisley, 169th CES  
 Geoffrey Westmoreland, 169th CES  
 Siobhan Sledge, 245th ATCS

**Airman First Class**

Ryan Haas, 169th MXG

**Retirements**

CMSgt Carl Alston  
 JFHQ-SCANG  
 37+ Years

MSgt Richard Hodges  
 169th Fighter Wing  
 28+ Years

**TESTING SCHEDULE**

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.  
 Drill Sundays, 12:30 p.m.

Report for testing no later than 15 minutes before the test. Members testing on CDCs required for upgrade training must bring their AFIADL 9 course card with the following items documented:

Date review training began  
 Date due completion  
 Date review training ended  
 Supervisor's signature  
 Trainee's signature

Members without the card and required information are not allowed to test. For more information, contact a unit training manager.

**SCANG Schedule****February**

Black History Month  
 Newcomers' Briefing  
 ORE

**March**

Green Flag Exercise  
 Awards Ceremony

**April**

Boss Lift (ESGR)  
 Mandatory Annual Training

**May**

Air Expeditionary Force  
 2011 -- UCI (Feb. UTA)

**Base Training**

*Airman Leadership School*  
 (class start dates -- five-week duration)  
 (56 seats for ANG members)

**2010**

March 1 - April 1  
 April 19 - May 20  
 May 31 - July 1  
 July 12 - August 12

*Noncommissioned Officers Academy*  
 (class start dates -- six-week duration)  
 (75 seats for ANG members)

March 1 - April 7  
 April 26 - June 2  
 June 14 - June 29  
 July 6 - August 12  
 September 7 - October 14

*Chief's Executive Course*  
 February 22-26  
 March 22-26  
 June (TBD)  
 August 2-6  
 August 23-27  
 September 13-17

# February Blood Drive Base Canteen

A "Valentine's Day" blood drive with the American Red Cross will be held Sunday in the Base Canteen, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Our goal is 90 pints. There is an urgent need for O positive blood.

Thank you! MSgt. Selina Chavez  
 (SCANG blood drive coordinator)

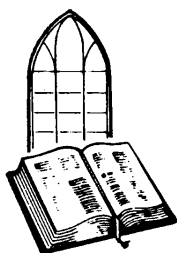
# REFLECTIONS

## New Goals

*"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:1-2)*

How are you doing so far in the goals you've set for this New Year? Maybe you've realized already in February, that you've been unrealistic with setting those goals. I've found it helpful to set consistent daily goals that are reachable. Daily practices can lead to a lifetime of worship. You can determine now to be kind to others, to pray, to study God's Word, to share your faith and words of encouragement to others. May you continue in 2010 to engage in daily practices that renew your mind, transform your focus and foster a closer relationship as you walk with the Lord. God promises to bless you for even the small goals of obedience to Him, for they become the building blocks of all God wants you to accomplish. What consistent daily goals can you set for yourself that will ultimately bring glory to God? May this plea from an old hymn be your prayer: *"Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant it, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, Let it be, dear Lord, let it be."*

By Chaplain (Capt.) Shane Moore



## Worship Schedule Saturday

Maintenance (hangar) & SFS after rollcall

## Sunday

8 - 8:30 a.m. - "Chapel Now" (WG HQ auditorium)

10:30-10:55 a.m. - "Chapel Next" (Dining Facility)

1:30-2 p.m. - Catholic Mass  
in the LRS conference room (Father Travis)

# What's for Lunch?

## Saturday

Chicken Cordon Bleu or Salisbury Steak  
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy  
Carrots, Cut Corn, Salad Bar  
Dessert and Drinks

## Snackline

Hamburgers with Cheese  
Hot Dogs with Chili, French Fries

## Sunday (1030-1230)

Baked Chicken or Roast Pork  
Rice & Gravy, Cabbage, Candied Yams  
String Beans, Salad Bar  
Dessert and Drinks

## Snackline

Hot Wings, French Fries, Baked Beans

The Dining Facility is open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Everyone using the facility must present a valid ID card.

# Top Achievers

## Distinguished Graduate

**SrA Brendan Trostle**

245th Air Traffic Control Squadron  
*Electronic Principles Course*

## AETC Commander's Award

**TSgt. Jeffrey Tengonciang**

169th Communications Flight  
*Knowledge Operations Management Course*

# Swamp Fox Litter

## Baby girl Sadie Ostern

born to Col. Gerry & Chaplain (Capt.) Heather Ostern  
Dec. 22, 2009

## Baby boy London Padgett

born to SSgt. Will and Lauren Padgett  
Dec. 30, 2009

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McEntire Joint National Guard Base  
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Eastover, SC 29044-5010

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